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OCI-1422/64  
7 April 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Current Intelligence  
SUBJECT : Preliminary Evaluation of Mission SI44A,  
Flown 4 April 1964

1. This mission, the eleventh flown under CIA sponsorship since 1 March, provides extensive but generally repetitive coverage of North Vietnam and the northern half of Laos.

#### Laos

2. Nineteen airfields were photographed; fifteen were previously covered and the present photography shows no change. Of the remainder, three are under FAR control and one under Pathet Lao control. The only aircraft photographed continue to be at FAR and Neutralist fields.

3. Photography of military installations included seven which have previously been seen and one newly discovered small Pathet Lao camp along Route 7 near the North Vietnam border. There has been no change in the seven installations previously photographed.

#### North Vietnam

4. Airfield coverage included Dien Bien Phu, with three AN-2 (COLT) aircraft, and one other unserviceable field.

5. A total of twenty-five military installations (barracks, ammo depots, supply and storage areas, small camps) were photographed. A four position AA site at the Van Yen complex, sixty miles west of Hanoi, is under construction. Two of the installations photographed are additions to the major Phu Van complex along Route 7, northwest of Vinh.

6. Virtually all of Route 7 from the Laos border to the Gulf of Tonkin was photographed. This is the major east-west supply artery between North Vietnam and the Plaine des Jarres in Laos. All bridges appear serviceable and a considerable amount of vehicle activity was photographed. Two truck convoys, one of forty-five vehicles and the other of twenty-five vehicles, were seen in

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
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North Vietnam headed northwest on Route 7. The 45-vehicle convoy was five miles from the Laos border and the other was twenty miles from the border. In addition to the convoys, a total of thirty-seven vehicles were seen at four military installations on or near Route 7. In other areas, the road leading south from Hoa Binh, southwest of Hanoi, was under construction.

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